



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/981,287	10/18/2001	Bernhard Dohrmann	59575-014	6542
27975	7590	03/28/2006	EXAMINER	
ALLEN, DYER, DOPPELT, MILBRATH & GILCHRIST P.A. 1401 CITRUS CENTER 255 SOUTH ORANGE AVENUE P.O. BOX 3791 ORLANDO, FL 32802-3791			HARRIS, CHANDA L	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3715	

DATE MAILED: 03/28/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.		Applicant(s)	
	09/981,287		DOHRMANN, BERNHARD	
	Examiner		Art Unit	
	Chanda L. Harris		3715	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 April 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) 1-12 and 42-66 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) 1-12 and 42-66 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Status of Claims

In response to the Amendment filed 4/11/05, Claims 1-12 and 42-66 are pending.

Claim Objections

Claim 59 is objected to because of the following informalities: Line 1: "proving" should be -- providing --. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-12 and 42-66 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Domae et al. (US 6,088,004).

1. [Claims 1,59]: Regarding Claims 1 and 59, Domae discloses at least one source that provides data (i.e., image display system). See Abstract. Domae discloses at least one user interface that receives from a user input related to the data (i.e., via signal selecting means). See Col.6: 11-16 and 23-27. Domae discloses a plurality of

output devices that receives audio and visual components of the instructional information, wherein the plurality of output devices includes at least three visual displays that show at least three visual images (i.e., plurality of monitors). See Abstract. Domae discloses a processor that generates audio and visual components of instructional information from provided data (e.g., T.V. broadcast, a video tape recorder, a video disc) to at least one output device according to a software algorithm containing at least one predetermined rule that causes display of continuous random background visual images on the at least three visual displays during a time when an instructor is instructing a classroom. See Col.4: 44-46 and Col.5: 47-51. Domae's invention is capable of generating instructional information and being practiced during a time when an instructor is in a classroom. Domae discloses communication links that transmit data and information between the at least one source, the user interface, the processor and the output devices. See FIG.3

2. [Claim 2]: Regarding Claim 2, Domae discloses wherein said at least one source comprises at least one of a VCR (i.e., vide tape recorder), DVD, cameras, audio tuners, Internet and PC-based presentations. See Col.4: 44-46.

3. [Claim 3]: Regarding Claim 3, Domae discloses wherein said at least one predetermined rule (i.e., configuration) determines order and sequence in which data from each source is to be applied to the output devices. See Col.5: 46-65.

4. [Claim 4]: Regarding Claim 4, Domae discloses wherein said user input determines which source provides the data. See Col.5: 66-Col.6: 4.

5. [Claim 5]: Regarding Claim 5, Domae discloses wherein software includes a control

component that determines order and sequence in which data from each source is to be applied to the output devices. See Col.6: 6-8.

6. [Claim 6]: Regarding Claim 6, Domae discloses wherein the plurality of output devices comprise three display screens or a set of speakers. See FIG.3.

7. [Claim 7]: Regarding Claim 7, Domae discloses wherein each of the three display screens is further divided into a plurality of viewing areas in a predetermined pattern. See Col.5: 23-38.

8. [Claims 8-11]: Regarding Claims 8-11, Domae's invention is capable of providing wherein at least one display screen is divided into four equal viewing areas, wherein at least one display screen is divided into nine equal viewing areas, wherein at least one display screen is divided into sixteen equal viewing areas, and wherein at least one display screen is divided into two or more unequal viewing areas. See Col.5: 23-38.

9. [Claim 12]: Regarding Claim 12, Domae discloses wherein each of the three display screen is further divided into a plurality of viewing areas in a pattern different from the other screens. See Col.5: 47-51.

10.[Claim 42]: Regarding Claim 42, Domae discloses wherein at least one predetermined rule further includes displaying a random sequence of the visual images on each of the at least three visual displays. See Col.5: 60-Col.6: 4.

11.[Claim 43]: Regarding Claim 43, Domae discloses wherein the at least one predetermined rule further includes displaying random switching time (i.e., at short intervals) between the visual images being displayed on each of the at least three visual displays. See Col.6: 2-4.

Art Unit: 3715

12. [Claim 44]: Regarding Claim 44, Domae discloses wherein the at least one predetermined rule further includes displaying random display duration (i.e., at short intervals) of the visual data being displayed on each of the at least three visual displays. See Col.6: 2-4.

13. [Claim 45]: Regarding Claim 45, Domae discloses wherein at least one predetermined rule further includes displaying random special effect transitions (i.e., animation) of the visual data being displayed on each of the at least three visual displays. See Col.5: 52-59.

14. [Claims 46-47]: Regarding Claims 46 and 47, Domae's invention is capable of providing wherein the at least one predetermined rule further includes displaying a student image or a teacher image on the display system on each of the at least three visual displays. See Col.6: 11-16.

15. [Claim 48]: Regarding Claim 48, Domae's invention is capable of providing wherein the at least one predetermined rule further includes displaying a visual data piece repetitively on the display system on each of the at least three visual displays. See Col.6: 11-16.

16. [Claim 49]: Regarding Claim 49, Domae discloses wherein the at least one predetermined rule further includes displaying background pictures (e.g., advertisements) during idle or transition periods on the display system on each of the at least three visual displays. See Col.6: 5-7.

17. [Claim 50]: Regarding Claim 50, Domae's invention is capable of providing wherein

Art Unit: 3715

at least one predetermined rule further includes displaying previous information provided by a teacher to reinforce the previous information on each of the at least three visual displays. See Col.6: 11-21.

18. [Claims 51,65]: Regarding Claims 51 and 65, Domae's invention is capable of providing wherein at least one predetermined rule further includes displaying new information provided by a teacher when the teacher overrides the control system (i.e., via signal selecting means) on the display system on each of the at least three visual displays. See Col.6: 11-15.

19. [Claims 52,60]: Regarding Claims 52 and 60, Domae's invention is capable of providing wherein the at least one predetermined rule further includes displaying background pictures (e.g., static images) that are related to what is being taught. See Col.5: 52-53.

20. [Claims 53,61]: Regarding Claims 53 and 61, Domae's invention is capable of providing wherein the at least one predetermined rule further includes displaying background pictures (e.g., dynamic landscape) that are unrelated to what is being taught. See Col.5: 52-53.

21. [Claims 54,62]: Regarding Claims 54 and 62, Domae discloses wherein the unrelated pictures are selected from the group of pictures consisting of scenic sites (e.g., a wave breaking across a beach). See Col.5: 53-56.

22. [Claims 55,63]: Regarding Claims 55 and 63, Domae discloses wherein the unrelated background pictures are selected from the group of pictures consisting of historical items (e.g., a landscape). See Col.6: 18-19.

Art Unit: 3715

23. [Claims 56,64]: Regarding Claims 56 and 64, Domae's invention is capable of providing wherein the related background pictures are selected from the group of pictures consisting of books, etc. See Col.5: 52-53.

24. [Claims 57,66]: Regarding Claims 57 and 66, Domae discloses wherein the three visual displays are viewable on a single display screen. See Col.5: 46-51.

25. [Claim 58]: Regarding Claim 58, Domae discloses wherein the three visual displays are viewable on three distinct display screens. See Col.5: 46-47.

Citation of Pertinent Prior Art

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- Chee (US 5,694,141)

- a video display controller providing for simultaneous display of different images on the pair of display devices (Abstract)

- Kawamura (US 5,574,574)

- an image display method which can display the same or different images on a plurality of display apparatuses (Col.1: 54-63)

- Saito et al. (US 4,876,657)

- presentation display apparatus for displaying two different images on separate displays (Abstract)

- Singhal et al. (US 5,488,385)

- multiple concurrent display system (Abstract)

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. See rejection above. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chanda L. Harris whose telephone number is 571-272-4448. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 6:30am-4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Monica S. Carter can be reached on 571-272-4475. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 3715

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Chanda L. Harris
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3715